

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /133 W
----- 022415

R 221510Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4147

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 4490

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, PO

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN AND PORTUGUESE AFRICA

1. MIDDLE LEVEL MEA OFFICIAL TOLD DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE MAY 20 THAT FMG IS ENCOURAGING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES TO SEEK AGREEMENT WITH NEW GOP AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER ENHANCE ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICA. IN NIGERIAN VIEW, HISTORY IS ON SIDE OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, SO THAT EVEN SETTLEMENT SHORT OF FULL INDEPENDENCE THEY CURRENTLY DEMAND WOULD START IRREVERSIBLE PROCESS LEADING INEVITABLY TO THAT ULTIMATE GOAL. WHILE EVOLUTION PROCEEDED WITHIN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES, NIGERIANS CONTEND, SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE ISOLATED IN FACE OF WORLD OPINION AND COULD BE SUBJECTED TO MORE EFFECTIVE PRESSURE THAN IS PRESENTLY POSSIBLE.

2. SOURCE REMARKED IN PASSING THAT FMG WILL INVITE
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LEADERS OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES

TO MEET IN LAGOS "NEXT MONTH" TO DISCUSS NIGERIAN VIEWS AND PRESUMABLY TO COORDINATE THEIR NEGOTIATING POSTURE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE SOURCE MAY NOT HAVE ACCESS TO HIGHEST LEVEL DECISIONS, HIS ACCOUNT OF FMG POLICY FITS PERFECTLY WITH PRAGMATIC APPROACH NIGERIANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY ADOPTED ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUE. THERE IS SOME AMBIGUITY IN SUGGESTION THAT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WILL BE INVITED TO LAGOS "NEXT MONTH". SEEN FROM HERE, MOST LIKELY TIME FOR SUCH MEETING IS BETWEEN LAST WEEK'S ALC SESSION AND MID-JUNE OAU CM AND SUMMIT. THUS, "NEXT MONTH" MAY WELL MEAN "NEXT WEEK" OR FIRST FEW DAYS OF JUNE, IF SUCH MEETING IS TO OCCUR AT ALL.
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